Row with EU over Garment Quota

925. SHRI SITARAM KESRI:
SHRI S.M. KRISHNA:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether a row is going on with European Union on garment quota, if so, the details thereof;

(b) by when it is likely to be resolved;

(c) the details of shipment held up at European ports and the losses suffered by Indian exporters on that account; and

(d) whether Indian exporters have sought compensation from AEPC for the losses they arc suffering, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI KASHIRAM RANA): (a) to (d) Some consignments of garments under EU categorties 4, 6 and 26 have been held up in EU ports as annual levels for 1998 in respect of these categories had been exceeded. A delegation of the Apparel Export Promotion Council had been sent to Europe in this regard. The matter has also been taken up bilaterally by the Government with the European Commission as well as with EU Member States. In the meantime, fresh 1999 quotas are being issued for any consignments coming back to India and the customs authorities have taken steps for prompt clearance of any such goods for purpose of re-export to Europe.

According to available information the quantity involved in such held up consignments in three categories is reported to be around two million pieces. Their value is estimated at about Rs. 40 crore. Some exporters have also represented for appropriate compensation in this regard.

Pay packages for scientists of central silk board

926. SHRI J. CHITHARANIAN:
SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the matter regarding revision of pay package of Central Silk Board scientists, at par with ICAR, is under active consideration; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI KASHIRAM RANA): (a) and (b) The issue regarding revision of pay scales to scientific personnel on Central Silk Board (CSB) has been under consideration with the Government of India for sometime. The previous proposal of the Ministry of Textiles was to bring the pay scales of these scientists at par with ICAR. This was, however, not accepted by the Government (Ministry of Finance) on account of the fact that the CSB does not have the status of a 'Deemed University'. Subsequently after discussions with the Association members the Ministry has recommended that keeping in view the specialised functions and responsibilities of the scientists, their pay scales should be equated with similarly placed employees in other R&D organisations such as CSIR and Deptt. of Science and Technology. This proposal is presently under consideration.

ई.ई.सी.के पत्तनों पर रूके हुए भारतीय परिधान

927.**श्री मुनव्वहर हसन**: क्या वस्त्र मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या यह सच है कि 30 करोड़ रूपये के भारतीय वस्त्र यूरोपीय आर्थिक संघ(ई.ई.सी.) के देशों के बन्दरगाहों पर रूके पड़े हैं;

(ख) यदि हां,तो इसके कारण क्या हैं;और

(ग) उक्त वस्त्र बंदरगाहों पर कब से पड़े हैं और सरकार ने निर्यातकों की मदद के लिए कौन से कदम उठाये हैं अथवा उठाने का विचार रखती हैं ?

वस्त्र मंत्री (श्री काशीराम राणा): (क) से (ग) यूरोपीय संघ श्रेणी के अंतर्गत परिधानों का कुछ प्रेषण दिसंबर,1998 में यूरोपीय संघ पत्तनों पर रूकना शुरू हो गया था क्योंकि इन श्रेणियों के संबंध में 1998 के लिए वार्षिक स्तर अधिक हो गया था । उपलब्ध सूचना के अनुसार तीन श्रेणियों में रूके हुए प्रेषणों का अनुमानित मूल्य 40 करोड़ रू. हैं । ए ई पी सी के प्रतिनिधिमंडल को इस संबसं में यूरोप भेजा गया था । मामले को भारत द्वारा द्विपक्षीय तौर पर यूरोपीय आयोग तथा यूरोपीय संघ के सदस्य देशों के साथ उठाया भी गया था । इस बीच,नवीन 1999 कोटाओं को वापस भारत आने वाले किसी प्रेषणों के लिए जारी किया जा रहा है तथा हमारे सीमा शुल्क अधिकारियों ने यूरोप को पुनर्निर्यात करने के उद्देश्य से किसी ऐसे माल के त्वरित निकासी के लिए कदम उठाये हैं ।

वस्त्र निर्यात उद्योग में मंदी

928. **श्री डी.पी.यादव**: क्या वस्त्र मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या देश का परिधान निर्यात उद्योग भारी मंदी के दौर से गुजर रहा हैं;

(ख) यदि हां,तो क्या सरकार द्वारा इस उद्योग को मंदी से बचाने हेतु कोई कारगर कदम उठाये जा रहे हैं;और

(ग) यदि हां,तो उसका ब्यौरा क्या हैं?

वस्त्र मंत्री (श्री काशीराम राणा): (क) से (ग) देश में परिधान निर्यात उद्योग भारी मंदी के दौर से नहीं गुजर रहा हैं । तथापि,परिधानों के निर्यात को प्रोत्साहन देने के लिए सरकार अनेक कदम उठा रही है जिनके क्रेता-विक्रेता बैठकों,मेलों और प्रदर्शनियों में भाग लेने के लिए निर्यातकों को प्रोत्साहन देना,निर्यात उत्पादन के लिए रियायती शुल्क पर पूंजीगत माल के आयात का अधिकार देना,निर्यात उत्पादन के लिए कच्चे माल के शुल्क मुक्त आयात के लिए विशेष प्रबंध करना आदि शामिल हैं ।

Development of sericulture sector in Madhya Pradesh

929. MISS MABEL REBELLO: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of financial assistance provided for development of sericulture in Madhya Pradesh;

(b) the total amount spent on Kosa/ Mulberry development under various schemes and share of SC/ST people benefitting from these schemes;

(c) the future plan being formulated for upliftment of Sericulturists and Kosa/ Mulberry growers;

(d) whether it is a fact that after spending so much money on so many project, the quality and quantity of Kosa Silk is not improved; and

(e) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI KASHIRAM RANA): (a) and (b) The amount of financial assistance provided for development of sericulture [mulberry & tasar(Kosa)] in Madhya Pradesh during the VIII & IX plan are as under:—

(Rs. in crore)

Sector	VIII Plan (1992--97)	IX Plan (1997-98 upto Dec.98)
Mulberry	4.55	0.47
Non-mulberry	5.21	3.58
Total	9.76	4.05

The programmes implemented for tasar(Kosa) sericulture mainly benefit the tribal tasar silkworm rearers. The majority of the rearers/farmers being benefited from these programmes belong to SC/ST.

(c) In the IX plan period the Central Silk Board(CSB) has taken up implementation of Catalytic Development Schemes in collaboration with State Sericulture Department for development of sericulture. 16 projects sent by the State Sericulture Department have already been approved for implementation so far at a total cost of Rs.3.80 crore out of which CSB's share is Rs. 1.85 crore.